Delay in installation of Telephones after issue of OBs

1106. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephones are not being installed for weeks after issue of OBs;

(b) the details of time limit within which such telephones are to be installed/made operational;

(c) whether complaints of the subscribers for removal of faults are not being attended to promptly nor their letters replied to;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to enquire into the functioning of MTNL and suggest improvement, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of complaints/cases of corruption were received/came to light in the last one year and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) No Sir, except in cases of bulk release and technically non-feasible cases.

(b) Except in case of bulk release, 15 days is the normal period prescribed for the installation of new telephone after issue of OB. Besides this, if a specific pocket is technically non-feasible due to non-availability of cable pairs, then also it takes more time.

(c) All out efforts are made to rectify the telephone reported faulty as quickly as possible to the customers' satisfaction. To deal with the subscribers' written complaints, Public Grievance cell are operative in each area. The letters are also replied at appropriate level.

(d) No Sir, in view of (c) above.

(e) The number of complaints received by the Vigilance Cell of MTNL, Delhi in 1995-96 is 39. The disposal is as given below:

(i) No. of cases in which rent rebate granted for faulty services?

(ii) No. of cases in which action recommended:—

(a) Disciplinary action—5

(b) Warning—2

(c) Transfer of officials—3

(iii) Cases in which charges could not be established-22

In MTNL, Mumbai, five cases of corruption were received during 1995-96, out of these 3 cases are being processed by CBI. In one case the lineman involved has been transferred and in the other case, it was recommended that the case be closed since the complainant was not cooperative.

Setting up of Road Safety Bureau

1107. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Road Safety Bureau in every State;

(b) whether any such Road Safety Bureau operates in Bihar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether road safety is likely to be enhanced by increasing vigilance in different States?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATARAMAN): (a) No, Sir. However, in terms of Section 215 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, a State Government may constitute for the State a State Road Safety Council.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Oil spill in the Hoogly river at Haldia

1108. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over three lakh litres of high speed diesel oil were spilt into the Hoogly river at Haldia from the IOC oil reservoir posing serious threat of fire to the dock complex;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the inquiry conducted into the oil spill; and

(d) the action has been taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There was spillage of High Speed Diesel from barge "Prem Tista" chartered by Indian Oil Corporation at Barge Jetty No. 1 during the early hours of 31.5.96. Loading of petroleum products at the existing two barge jetties of Haldia Dock Complex is controlled and operated by Indian Oil Corporation (Marketing Division).

(c) No such inquiry was conducted by the Government.

(d) Indian Oil Corporation which is controlling the entire operations at the barge jetty has taken steps for monitoring the loading operations closely from shore to the barge and is also training the personnel undertaking the barge operations.

बजौरा और भुन्तर के बीच राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग 21 पर सरकारी जमीन पर नाजायज कब्जे

1109. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि कुछ लोगों ने हिमाचल प्रदेश के कुल्लू जिले में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-21 पर बजौरा और भुन्तर के बीच सरकार द्वारा अधिगृहीत भूमि पर नाजायज कब्जे कर लिए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे व्यक्तियों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं और कब से उन्होंने नाजायज कब्जे कर रखे हैं; और

(ग) इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री (श्री टी.जी. वेंकटरामन): (क) सरकार की जानकारी में ऐसा कोई मामला नहीं है। (ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Modernisation of Telecommunication Network in Orissa

1110. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the modernisation and expansion of telecommunication network in Orissa during 8th Five Year Plan so far;

(b) the target set in that regard for 8th Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of the programme proposed for the expansion and modernisation of telecommunication network in that State during the remaining period of 8th Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) The targets set for modernisation and expansion of telecom network in Orissa during 8th Five Year Plan (1992—97) as under:—

Achieve fully automatic network by March'94 by replacing all manual exchanges.

Replace life expired and wornout switches as and when their life expires.

Replace all Strowger MAX. III exchanges by electronic exchanges.

Replace all line finder type MAX. II exchange by electronic exchanges.

Replace all life expired and unserviceable transmission systems by digital systems.

Computerise manual trunk services in Cuttack (which is one of the 14 identified locations in India).

Provide a total of 48,9000 telephone connections with net switching capacity addition of 61,574 lines.

The major steps taken during the 8th Five Year Plan for the modernisation and expansion of telecom network in Orissa are as under:

(i) The telephone exchange network has been made full automatic.

(ii) Old life expired electromechanical MAX. I exchanges at cities like Bhubaneswar, Rourkela, Berhampur, Puri and Balasore have been replaced by electronic exchanges.

(iii) 237 small and medium electromechanical exchanges have been converted to electronic type and no